

Changes to SB359 due to amendments:

1. **Target only Veterans and their spouses.**
2. **Contingent void--No funding found and the bill dies.**
3. **A loan to be paid back by the Veteran.**
4. **The training can be in any industry no longer limited to truck driving.**
5. **They can accept grants.**
6. **Pay back by the business**

What: A loan for Vets and or their spouses to access short-term training in Montana.

Who: Vets and their spouses. The GI Bill includes spouses and so did I because some Vets may come home and have a disability that prohibits them from certain occupations.

Why: The GI Bill does not pay for short term training for post 911 Veterans. The GI Bill does pay for pre-911 Veterans to go to short term training in certain occupations. While the list is expansive, it does not include practical occupations like truck driving, real estate school, certified nurse assistant, and cosmetology etc. Pell grants are not available for short-term training. Some Vets prefer to get into the workforce as quickly as possible, short term training allows for that goal.

How: A loan to be paid back by the Veteran and the business owner.

Where: Must be MT resident and agree to work in MT.